

*Hunt's Merchants' Magazine.*—The April number of this valuable periodical presents the usual quantity of interesting and important information. This publication appears to be peculiarly fitted to the character and the pursuits of our citizens, and we are glad to find that it receives internally, by the valuable communications of its correspondents, and externally by an increasing circulation, that support and encouragement which it justly deserves.

The first article in the present number is an elaborate essay "on the production of wheat in the United States," by JOSEPH R. WILLIAMS, of Michigan. We cannot extract from this disquisition the tenth part of the useful information which it contains, but must find content ourselves with some abstracts of it; premising that Mr. Williams's statements are all founded on official data.

From a tabular estimate of the crops for 1843, it appears that the State of Ohio produces more wheat than any other State in the Union, viz, 18,780,705 bushels, being nearly one-fifth of the produce of the country.

NEW YORK produces the most Barley and Oats, viz, 1,802,982 bushels of the former, or nearly three-fifths of the entire produce, and 54,007,853 bushels of the latter, or more than one-sixth of the whole.

PENNSYLVANIA raises the most Rye and Buckwheat; that is to say, three-eighths of the total produce of the former, and nearly one-third of the latter.

TENNESSEE grows the greatest quantity of Indian Corn, viz, 67,838,477 bushels, or nearly one-seventh of the total produce of the Union.

The new State of MICHIGAN is advancing rapidly in her agricultural career. The first year in which she supported herself without importing wheat was 1838; in 1840, her production was 3,157,108 bushels; and in 1843, her crop is estimated at 5,293,371 bushels, being a surplus of nearly three millions of bushels to dispose of abroad.

The crops of IOWA and WISCONSIN have trebled since 1840.

Mr. Williams proves, to demonstration, that the great bulk of bread stuffs is consumed in the countries where they are produced.

The annual export of Flour and Wheat from the United States to all countries on the face of the globe, from 1790 to the present time, has not amounted to 4,500,000 bushels annually, and for the last twenty-five years has not amounted to 4,000,000 bushels. Our annual export, therefore, to all the world is equal to one-twenty-second part of the crop of 1843. Our annual export of these articles to Great Britain is less than one-hundredth part of that crop, being about one quart of bread-stuff annually to each inhabitant of that empire. Of other grains than Wheat, the foreign demand is equal to less than one three-hundred-and-fiftieth part. Such has been the foreign demand (for our cereal grains) during our whole existence as a nation, never taking off more than a mere fraction of our annual produce; such has it been since our tariff laws were relaxed, and when they were most stringent; such has it been when the whole carrying trade of the world was opened to us; such has it been when the South American Republics, struggling for existence, gave us markets; such has it been while Europe was desolated by the wars of Napoleon; such has it been while starving millions abroad were crying for bread.

Even if the corn laws of England were repealed, and trade was open and free, the American farmer could not supply her market until he can place himself on a level with the serfs of Russia and Poland. "If he can live as poorly housed and fed as they, if he can endure to go as meanly clad, if he can content himself to have his children grow up around him as ignorant as his cattle, then he can raise wheat and sell it in competition with a European serf." The average price of wheat in the market of New York, for the last thirty years, has been one dollar and thirty cents per bushel, while at the grain-exporting marts of Europe it has been less than one dollar.

What is our Home Market for grain? What has it been? What does it promise to be? We have seen what the Foreign Market is.

The census of the population of the United States in 1840 showed that 791,739 persons were employed in manufactures and trades; and, applying the usual rules of calculation, it is not too high an estimate to say that four millions of people directly and indirectly derive subsistence from manufactures, and being derived from the production of grain, become consumers. At the too low estimate of five bushels each, (it is in reality nearly seven) these four millions of persons consume twenty millions of bushels of wheat annually—more than four times the annual export to all the world, and more than twenty times the average export to Great Britain! The single State of Massachusetts is a better market for flour than all the world besides. General JACKSON, in his memorable letter to Doctor COLMAN, in 1824, said, "Take from agriculture six hundred thousand men, women, and children, and you will at once give a market for more bread-stuff than all Europe now furnishes." The truth of this assertion is now fully verified in the case of Massachusetts. Our principal customers from abroad are Great Britain, Brazil, and Cuba. Massachusetts supplies a market doubly or trebly as good as the first. New Jersey purchases from three States twice as much as Brazil. A single round of the whale fishery ships furnishes a superior market to Cuba; and no other Power or Dominion on the face of the globe consumes one half as much of our bread-stuffs as the city of Pittsburgh.

Mr. Williams adopts the injunction of Mr. JEFFERSON to "place the manufacturer by the side of the agriculturist," and says "that unlimited capacity for manufactures exists throughout that region, which threatens to glut our whole people with bread-stuffs." He reasons for the propriety of establishing manufactures in the West, instead of on the Atlantic shores, and says, "If well-developed lungs with breathe in a wholesome atmosphere, the West will finally manufacture."

We have given so much space to this important subject, that we can only recommend the other interesting articles which this number contains. They are, "The Western Railroad Movement," full of important facts and details, an able dissertation on "Commercial Suretyship," "The Production of Salt in the State of New York," "The Mining Industry of France," by Mr. PORTER, of the British Board of Trade; "The Precious Metals in Russia," (these articles are accompanied with interesting tabular statements and statistics); "Morality for Merchants," "Mercantile Biography," embracing the Life of Joseph Hewes, of North Carolina; "Commercial Copartnerships," "Bureau of Statistics," "Annals of American Commerce," "Mercantile Law Cases," "Monthly Commercial Chronicle," "Nautical Intelligence," "Railroad Statistics," "Commercial Statistics," "Tonnage of the United States," "Mercantile Miscellanies," and a short review of new books, under the head "The Book Trade," and the remaining contents of this number. We are the least pleased with this last article of any in the number. Twenty-four different publications are noticed on four pages, being more than an enumeration of titles, and a word or two of praise to each. We do not say that this praise is undeserved, but we think it is universal. We do not think that this "Book Trade" article is congenial to the purposes and intentions of the "Merchants' Magazine." As a review, it is entirely inefficient, as a list of new books it is very deficient. It notices fifteen publications from New York, and a few more are published at Philadelphia; eight from Boston, and one from Springfield, Massachusetts. A complete monthly list of new publications, both original and reprinted, with publishers' names, places of publication, and prices, would be a very valuable article for the "Merchants' Magazine," and very useful to the public as well as serviceable to the publisher, and we recommend the matter to Mr. HUNT's attention.

The "Merchants' Magazine" is regarded by us as one of the most valuable, if not the most valuable of our periodical publications. We are always gratified by a perusal of its pages, and earnestly recommend it to our readers. We believe it to be a fact, however strange it may appear, that no similar publication to this Magazine exists in any of the commercial countries of Europe.

Report of M. ANADET THIERRY upon the work of Mr. HENRY WHEATON, translated into French, under the title of "Histoire des Peuples du Nord ou des Danois et des Normands," made to the Academy of Moral and Political Science at Paris, the 7th December, 1844.

Mr. THIERRY expressed himself as follows:

M. GUILLOT, advocate in the Royal Court of Paris, has presented to the Academy his translation of the *History of the Northmen*, the work of one of its corresponding members, Mr. WHEATON. In fact, the present work may be considered a new edition of the original, rather than a mere translation, inasmuch as the translation was made under the inspection of the author, and has been revised, corrected, and considerably augmented by him. The translator has also co-operated with great intelligence and extensive knowledge of the subject in these improvements, by the addition of notes explanatory of the text, and of new documents, which form a voluminous appendix. The original edition of the *History of the Northmen* was published simultaneously in London and Philadelphia in 1831. Since that period, the field of Northern antiquities has been much enlarged and diligently explored. The labors of learned archaeologists in Denmark, England, Germany, and France, have been devoted to exploring the original sources of Scandinavian history. In England, Mr. WHEATON himself has recently published, in conjunction with a learned Scotsman, (Dr. CAIRN), under the title of *Scandinavia*, very curious researches in this branch of history. In Denmark, the publication of the ancient manuscript Sagas of Iceland have continued under the auspices of the Arms-Magazine commission; whilst the German literature has pursued vigorously, with zeal and success, their late investigations in Northern antiquity. France herself has participated in this scientific movement, by the publication of the estimable work of M. DANIEL, on Scandinavian poetry; France, which ought to be most anxious to learn the early history of those northern adventures, who established the Duchy of Normandy, whence proceeded the conquerors of England. In order to improve and perfect his work, Mr. WHEATON has laid under contribution these rich materials, some of which he might justly reclaim as his own.

The history of the Northmen, as traced by Mr. WHEATON, embraces the heroic age of these people; or, as I might rather say, their barbaric age. The other branches of the great Teutonic family, after the destruction of the Roman empire, easily bent, at least in a certain degree, to Roman civilization, which their conversion to Christianity, or the necessities of the conquest itself, imposed on them; and, in the 6th century, they had nearly become incorporated into the European society. On the other hand, the Northmen, fanatic enemies of the Christian religion and of civilization, continued against the Teutonic nations, Christian and half-civilized, that war of extermination they had together waged against the Roman empire. Their barbarian life was protracted until the 11th century, and during this long period of piratical pillage and romantic adventure, they came in contact with almost every European State. The historian who follows them in their armed pilgrimages necessarily passes in review the entire history of the modern world. This is what Mr. WHEATON has done, with brevity and discretion, so as not to lose sight of the main object of his work, but always with neatness of style, and often with profoundness of views. I invoke the special attention of the Academy to the 9th, 10th, and 11th chapters, relating to the expeditions of the Northmen in France and to the foundation of the Duchy of Normandy. I also consider as worthy of the highest commendation the chapter which terminates the work and recounts the history of the Norman sovereigns in Apulia and Sicily.

This book necessarily embraces various questions of a general and philosophical interest, such as those which relate to the origin of nations and religions. In respect to the origin of the Scandinavian race, Mr. WHEATON concurs in opinion with the greater part of his contemporaries in placing in Asia the cradle of nearly every nation which now inhabits Europe. In examining the elements of the ancient Scandinavian language, he very correctly connects the race by which it was spoken, as well as the other branches of the Germanic group, with those human families who speak or have spoken the Persian, the Zend, and the Sanscrit. The author conducts into Scania the Goths, who, according to his view, belong to a primitive migration. The Sviar, (the Suiones of Tacitus), the modern Swedes, arrived from the borders of the Palus Meotis, under the conduct of OEN, in the first century of the Christian era. OEN, combining the triple character of warrior, legislator, and priest, founded a religion in which he placed himself as the highest object of worship, or rather he established a reform by founding his religion on the basis of the ancient worship, and confounding himself with the great Scandinavian deity called by the similar name of Wotan or Oenir. The result is a double personage of that name—the one historical, the other mythological. Mr. WHEATON has happily extricated himself from this difficulty. I know nothing more satisfactory than the interpretation which he gives of the Scandinavian religion as it is described in the Edda. He perceives lurking under these symbols, often grand and majestic, often highly extravagant, many dogmas which are again to be found in the religions of ancient Asia, or which must have occupied a place in those religions, judging by their evident analogy. This also furnishes an additional confirmation of the opinion which places in Asia the cradle of the Scandinavian race.

One of the most interesting and instructive parts of Mr. WHEATON's work is that where he describes the discovery and colonization of Iceland. We follow with an eager and sustained curiosity the creation, in some sort *a priori*, of a new Scandinavian State, organizing itself under the eyes of history. The author has here collected together the observations he had to make on poetry, considered as a social element among the Northmen. The Skalds—those northern bards and minstrels—their moral authority, their political rank, the part they bore in the military expeditions and at the courts of the Kings and Jarls, furnish the author with the materials of some of his finest pages. Nothing is omitted; the composition of the Edda and the system of Icelandic prosody are fully explained.

But the question towards which Mr. WHEATON has directed his most piercing attention, naturally attracted by patriotic feeling, is that of the discovery of America by the Northmen, on which his investigations have thrown considerable new light. With the aid of the Sagas, of which he has a perfect knowledge, the author follows the Northmen adventures from Iceland and Greenland to *Hullaland*, (now called Labrador), to *Markland*, (Lower Canada), and to *Winland*, (since become New England). The existence of these three colonies, founded by Northmen in the eleventh century, is demonstrated by precise and incontrovertible texts; and recent investigations, in which Mr. WHEATON has partaken of which he has profited, have placed this historical point beyond all doubt. M. GUILLOT, in the appendix subjoined to his translation, has given a well-merited place to the celebrated inscription on the *Dighton-rock*, whose Scandinavian origin can no longer be contested since the publication of the Sagas of Thorfinn and the explanation given of the inscription by Professor FISK MARSHALL.

I conclude by stating that the original edition of the *History of the Northmen*, which was already an excellent work, has been much augmented in value by this translation into the French language.

A NEW POINT AS TO MOTIVY.—A case was recently brought before Judge SPRAGUE, of the U. S. District Court of Massachusetts, in which three seamen had refused to do duty on board of the vessel in which they had shipped. It was contended by their attorneys that they had committed no offence, as they had not legally made part of the crew, their shipping containing no memorandum specifying the day and hour when the men should render themselves on board, as required by the act of Congress of 1790, ch. 56, sec. 2. Judge SPRAGUE decided that the contract did not conform to the express conditions of the statute, and that the men never having rendered themselves on board of the vessel, but having been put there against their will, they could not be legally considered as part of the crew of the vessel, and could not be liable under the criminal statute against endeavoring to commit a revolt. He therefore directed the jury to return a verdict of "not guilty," which they did at once, and the defendants were discharged.—*Balt. Patriot*.

The *Cambria* steamer, Capt. Jenkins, left Boston on Thursday afternoon at a little past two o'clock for Halifax and Liverpool, with a very large mail and one hundred and nineteen passengers. The mails from the north, west, and south were all in season, and the letters promptly forwarded.

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We are looking with much interest, and we confess not entirely without anxiety, for news from Mexico of the manner in which the Government of that country shall have received the news of the passage of the act for the annexation of Texas to the United States. If the Government of that Republic be strong enough to withstand the popular feeling, and act from policy rather than in obedience to the probably excited feeling of the people of active hostility. We ought not, however, to attempt to disguise the fact that we yet entertain some apprehension of a contrary course being forced upon that Government.

Meanwhile the pro-Texan organs here are reviving their old and thrice-refuted stories of British interference in this matter. Thus, the "Constitution" of Thursday night attempts to breathe new life into the defunct story of the bargaining between SANTA ANNA and the British Government, for the purchase of California by the latter. Copying a paragraph from some Paris paper, overflowing with national animosity to England—a paragraph obviously founded on the original fabrication in this country of the story about the California treaty found in SANTA ANNA's pocket—as though Presidents of Republics usually went into battle with treaties in their pockets—the *Constitution* says: "We were the first to bring to the notice of the public, in this country, this wily effort of Great Britain, as disclosed by the papers found in possession of SANTA ANNA at the time of his fall," &c. &c. In regard to this story, whether as first got up here, or now re-echoed from France, and the echo again caught up as a confirmation of the original report, we repeat, as we have before said, that the story, whether new or old, is undoubtedly untrue; resting, in all probability, and almost certainly, upon no better foundation than the circumstance of some English merchants, who had lent money to Mexico which they could not get back, being offered, some years ago, certain grants of Government land in California in payment, upon terms such as those upon which that Government usually disposed of its public lands.

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has decided that the United States Mint in Philadelphia is liable to taxation for State and county purposes, the property having been derived by the United States through a purchase from a private owner, and not by cession from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

TEXAS.—The Editor of the Enquirer, who has just returned to Richmond from Washington, says: "We understand that our own Government at Washington have their eyes open, and are displaying the most determined energy in our relations with the young Republic. Mr. PITT of the State Department, is about to proceed to Texas with instructions to our Charge."

FROM CHINA.—Two more vessels have arrived at New York from Canton—the ship *Griffin*, which sailed on the 27th December, and the barque *Natchez*, which sailed about the 10th of January. The latter is the shortest passage ever made between New York and Canton. There is no news.

One of the most influential arguments in favor of the immediate annexation of Texas to the United States was based upon the alleged insidious efforts of Great Britain to acquire an undue influence in the councils of that country, to be purchased by advantageous commercial arrangements, such as permitting Texas cotton to enter her ports free of duty, while she would lay a heavy duty on cotton from the United States. And yet it now turns out, that before the annexation resolutions passed Congress, and while their fate was yet uncertain, the British Ministry had determined upon a repeal of the existing duty on our cotton, which of course would prevent any injurious discrimination against it by any treaty it might have made with Texas. The truth is, Great Britain is compelled to have our cotton, and her own interests require the abolition of the duty.—*Lynchburg Virginian*.

## ENLIGHTENED LEGISLATION!

An attempt was made in the Legislature of New Jersey, on Tuesday, to revive the law of a previous session, depriving persons connected with schools and colleges of the right of voting, which had been rendered null and void by the adoption of the new Constitution. Mr. PICKEL is entitled to the credit of this enlightened proceeding. An attempt had been made in the Convention which framed the new Constitution to renege this disfranchising feature upon it, but it was rejected by acclamation, both parties, Whig and "Democratic," for once uniting in voting it down.

We do not know what object Mr. PICKEL could have had in view, unless, like *Jack Cade*, he regards reading and writing as a badge of aristocratical tyranny, from which he would fain exempt the mind of the rising generation. Possibly he may think with Dogberry, that "reading and writing come by nature."

If it be not invidious to mention the example of a foreign Power, not held just at this time in very high estimation by certain of our brethren, we would barely suggest that in England the Universities have been considered of importance enough to have representatives in Parliament of their own. We are far from wishing to see this example pursued to its full extent in this country, but it does seem possible to adopt a middle course with benefit to all parties. However, the times are changed, and we suppose we must change with them. It is very certain that acquisitions of any sort, useful or elegant, are rather an incubance, just at this time, to any man desirous of rising in the world.—*Philad. Post*.

A NATION OF LAWS.—In the trial of *Broughton*, a leader of the Indians in one of the anti-race wars in New York, the following testimony was given:

"On the cross-examination of a witness, Horace Culver, of Anacram, it was made to appear that the Sheriff's papers had been taken and burnt at Anacram, the Indians made a ring, brandy was brought, and Big Thunder and the Sheriff drank together. The former congratulated the people that they had an anti-race Sheriff, and that as they were all of the same political party, (Locofocos), he (Big Thunder) would advise the people to re-elect the Sheriff. Big Thunder invited the Sheriff to dine at the expense of the Indians, which he did, and his horse's stabling was also paid for by the Indians."

Information received from Mexico, by way of Havana, intimates that Gen. CANALIZO, late ex-President of Mexico, will be shot, as he was at the period of the late revolution acting President of the Republic, and issued orders to Santa Anna, who endeavors to shield himself from responsibility on these grounds.

CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO CANAL.—We are gratified to be informed that the extent of the trade on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, during the present month, has been almost without a precedent since its construction, and the amount of toll received on it has been unusually large.

(Williamsport Banner.)

At the late session of the Supreme Court of the United States a case was tried involving the question of the right of pre-emption in individuals to portions of the Public Lands containing known mines of lead, &c. The Opinion of the Court in the case was delivered by Mr. Justice WAYNE, setting the following points:

1. That the act of Congress entitled "An act to create additional land districts in the States of Illinois and Missouri, and in the territory north of the State of Illinois," approved June 26, 1834, does not require the President of the United States to cause to be offered for sale the public lands containing lead mines situated in the land districts created by said act.
2. That the said act does not require the President to cause said lands, containing lead mines, to be sold, because the 5th section of the act of the 3d March, 1807, entitled "An act making provision for the disposal of the public lands situated between the United States military tract and the Connecticut reserve, and for other purposes," is still in full force.
3. That the lands containing lead mines in the Indiana territory, or in that part of it made into new land districts by the act of the 26th June, 1834, are not subject, under any of the pre-emption laws which have been passed by Congress, to a pre-emption by settlers upon the public lands.
4. That the 4th section of the act of 1834 does in no way repeal any part of the 5th section of the act of the 3d March, 1807, by which the lands containing lead mines were reserved for leadmine tracts, discovered to be such before they may be bought from the United States, are declared to be fraudulent and null, and which authorized the President to lease any lead mine which had been, or might be, discovered in the Indiana territory, for a term not exceeding five years.
5. That the land containing lead mines in the districts made by the act of 1834 are not subject to pre-emption said sale under any of the existing laws of Congress.
6. That digging lead ore from the lead mines upon the public lands in the United States is such a waste as entitles the United States to a writ of injunction to restrain it.

The Ohio State Journal says that Mr. BURNEY has requested that his name be no longer used in connection with the Presidency. He does not say that he will not consent to run in 1848, but expresses the opinion that it is wrong to bring out a name at this early period.

SEÑOR HARO Y TAMARIZ, Santa Anna's late Minister of Finance, has arrived at New Orleans from Havana. It may be recollected that he was the individual who took Santa Anna's propositions to the new Congress.

MR. BANCROFT, the new Secretary of the Navy, visited the Navy Yard at Charlestown and New York in Boston harbor on Thursday last. He was received with naval salutes by the firing of cannon, &c.

The Miners' Journal (Pottsville, Pa.) estimates one million tons as the probable coal shipments this year to the Schuylkill region—being an advance of about 125,000 tons over last season.

MORSE'S MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.—We are told that measures are immediately to be taken for the completion of a line of Morse's Magnetic Telegraph between Washington and New York. Since the telegraph bill has failed in Congress, there is a determination on the part of some individuals to wait no longer for the action of the Government. A telegraphic line can be laid down between Baltimore and New York, having eight wires for the whole distance, for about \$100,000. The work, it is said, may easily be made a profitable one to all the towns and cities on the line, and indeed to those beyond; and it also may be made to yield an income to the company.—*New York Evening Post*.

We have been informed, on reliable authority, that books will be opened in a few days in New York, Philadelphia, Washington, and Baltimore, for subscriptions to the stock of a company for the construction of a line of Morse's Magnetic Telegraphs between Baltimore and New York, with AMOS KENDALL at its head.—*Balt. Amer*.

## IOWA.

An election takes place next month to determine whether the people of this Territory are willing to accept of the Constitution prepared for them by the Convention. Congress, in the act of admission, deprived the State of an immense quantity of territory, and it seems to be doubtful whether the people will assume the form of a State Government on such terms. Many of those who advocated a change of Government are thrown beyond the limits of the proposed State of Iowa by the act of Congress, and hence it is doubted whether a majority can be found in favor of the Constitution. Strenuous opposition is made to it in other parts of the Territory.

(St. Louis Republican.)

## FROM BUENOS AYRES.

Accounts to the 8th February state that the British Chargé d'Affaires, following the example of the French Admiral, has refused to recognise, without further instructions from his Government, the strict blockade of the port of Montevideo which was proclaimed by Buenos Ayres on the 11th January, and demands for English vessels and cargoes exemption from the operation of the blockade, so long, at least, as such exemption shall be accorded to French vessels.

IMPORTANT APPLICATION OF THE STEAM-WHISTLE.—The following new scientific idea is from an English paper, and deserves attention, were it only from the nature of the subject:

"It is well known that one of the most common causes of the explosion of steam boilers has been the want of a sufficient quantity of water in the boiler at the time the heat underneath was very large. In many instances the deficiency of water has resulted from the negligence of the attendant engineer, combined with the fact that no alarm was given previous to the moment of explosion of the exact state of the water in the boiler."

"Happily an efficient and simple exponent of the depth of water in the boiler at the time of working, and which will act as a powerful alarm in case of danger, has just been applied to the steam-boilers at one of the largest manufacturing establishments in the neighborhood of Leeds. By affixing a small pipe in communication with the interior of a boiler at that point below which it is well known to be unsafe to allow the water to be consumed in the generation of steam, and at the top of such tube putting one of the common whistles that are attached to the railway locomotive engines, a very efficient alarm, as we have said, is formed; for as soon as the water within the boiler has been consumed below the point where the pipe enters the boiler, the steam will rush up the pipe, and thence into the whistle, giving timely warning of the deficiency of water in the boiler. We are not aware whether any similar means of safety has been tried at any other place; but whether it has or not, we think the subject is of sufficient importance to warrant our giving the information conveyed in this paragraph to the public."

In a law recently passed by the City Councils of Baltimore relative to firemen, it is enacted that any minor who is not now a member of a fire company, and all every disorderly person or persons found running to a fire, or after, before, or about an engine or other fire apparatus, within one square of any fire engine or other apparatus, who, after being warned away by an officer of a fire company, shall refuse or neglect to obey such warning, shall be deemed guilty of inciting a riot, and upon conviction thereof before Baltimore City Court, or any other Court of competent jurisdiction, forfeit and pay a sum of not less than ten and not more than fifty dollars.

## ST. LOUIS, (MO.) MARCH 26.

We learn that great excitement prevails in the Half Breed trail in Iowa. The settlers met last Saturday to re-take certain railroad property carried off by a claimant under the decree in favor of the New York Company. They were dispersed by the Sheriff, but they agreed to meet again to-day at 9 o'clock A. M., under arms, to take forcible possession of the re-taken property, and they threatened to burn the house of Mr. Reed, one of the proprietors of the Company. The Sheriff had ordered out an armed posse of six hundred men to prevent any disturbance. The excitement was so great on Sunday night as to cause it to be feared that a bloody affair may happen at the meeting to be held to-day.—*Reporter*.

FROM THE NEW ORLEANS BEE OF MARCH 26.

We published a few days ago a paragraph from the *Richmond Enquirer* relative to the last Mexican instalment, in which TRIGUEROS, a partner of the firms of Hargous & Co. in Vera Cruz, and Voss & Co. in New York, is severely handled, for a supposed appropriation to his own use of the funds destined for the United States Government.

A citizen of Mexico, M. PAYNO, editor of the *Siglo Diez y Nueve*, who is now in our city, has called upon us and requested us to insert the following statement, exonerating Trigueros from the accusations of the *Enquirer*:

NEW ORLEANS, MARCH 25, 1845.

MEMOR. EDITORS: In the *Bee* of yesterday is published a paragraph from the *Richmond Enquirer*, in which it is stated that Mr. Trigueros, Santa Anna's fiscal agent, "paid with one hand the last instalment (\$375,000) into the other, while he wrote the receipt as agent of the United States Government, and that he has absconded, carrying with him this amount, which the United States will doubtless lose."

As a friend of Mr. Trigueros, and as a lover of truth and justice, I beg leave to assure you that he is not a partner in the firm of Hargous & Co., nor in that of Voss & Co.; that Mr. Trigueros never dreamt of "absconding," inasmuch as he resigned of his own free will, long before the revolution in Mexico and the fall of Santa Anna, and that he is now residing in Mexico, and has never thought of committing the crime imputed to him.

Mr. Voss is a merchant of established reputation, who would not violate his engagements for any consideration whatever. The payment of the instalment in question has doubtless been retarded by the recent revolutionary movements in Mexico; and now that they have terminated peacefully, I feel satisfied that the new Administration will afford no cause of complaint to foreign nations.

You will confer an obligation by publishing this correction of a misstatement into which the editors of the *Richmond Enquirer* have probably inadvertently fallen.

Very respectfully, M. PAYNO.

## GENERAL JACKSON.

ISAAC HILL, of New Hampshire, who lately visited the Hermitage, says:

"I found General Jackson better in health than I expected; yet so weak, if it were any other man, I could scarcely suppose he would live a week. For the last four months he has not attempted to take his customary meals with the family. He sits through the day in a well-constructed easy chair, with his writing materials, his miniature bible, and hymn book before him. To him are brought, as soon as the mail arrives, the newspapers; and, during the four days I tarried at the Hermitage, his first inquiry was for the daily Washington newspapers and the letters bearing the postmark of the capital. His complaint is pulmonary: one lobe of the lungs he believes to be entirely consumed. This condition is shown by the shortness of breath, which almost entirely precludes the benefit of personal exercise. When he moves it is so slowly as to produce no disturbance. His feet and ankles are swollen from continued sitting; and he finds a substitute for salutary exercise only in the bathing of his limbs every evening in those emollients calculated to produce a healthy action of the skin. Weak as he is, he shaves with his own hand, and combs and adjusts the ample gray hair, which continues to add to the dignity of his appearance."

FROM THE NEW YORK COURIER AND ENQUIRER OF SATURDAY.

WAR WITH MEXICO.—The Journal of Commerce affirms as fact, and not mere rumor or conjecture, that Gen. ALMONTE, the Mexican Minister, now in this city, awaiting the departure of the vessel which is to convey him to his own country, "expresses the opinion that as the resolutions for the annexation of Texas were passed by so very small a majority, the Mexican Government will not think it necessary to disturb the friendly relations now existing between the two countries."

The Journal has certainly been misinformed on this point. We have reason to know that a diametrically opposite opinion has been given by General Almonte, who, deprecating as much as any one the disturbance of friendly relations between the United States and Mexico, is yet unable to perceive how such a calamity is to be avoided.

As a matter of fact, political relations are already suspended. It seems to us, too, the natural consequence of Mr. Almonte's having demanded his passports here, that like passports should be sent by the Mexican Government to Mr. Shannon, without waiting for him to act in the matter.

The reason put into Mr. Almonte's mouth for assuming that there will be no disturbance is unsound. What, in fact, is it to Mexico, whether the act of which she complains as a wrong was carried by a large or a small majority, since it was carried, and is the law of the land? Foreign nations know each other on all public questions solely through their respective Governments; and the Government of the United States has done the act, so far as its agency can avail, of which it was predicted by the Mexican Minister that the occurrence would be looked upon by his country as an act of war. Is it any the less an act of war because adopted in despite of close and strenuous opposition?

Neither the Journal of Commerce, nor its informant, can doubt, if the parties were reversed, and Mexico had done to us what we have to her, that we should instantly right ourselves by arms. As little can that journal doubt, if England or France had been in the place of Mexico, that our Government would have hesitated very long before adopting towards either of them the course adopted towards Mexico—and this is a point of view which, we confess, mortifies us as Americans exceedingly, since it gives to our conduct an air of bullying the weak.

What, indeed, but the weakness of Mexico is counted upon by those who confidently rely upon the preservation of peace? Certainly for external war Mexico is weak; yet is she not without the means of very serious annoyance to us, by a resort to that legalized but immoral weapon of war, privateering; nor are our own seaports without abundant materials out of which she could fashion a system of brigandage upon our wide-spread and unsuspecting commerce, which would be felt with terrible effect.

What is to hinder Mexico from having recourse to this expedient? She has no commerce to lose by reprisals on our part; the yellow fever protects her maritime border from invasion, and an unwatred wilderness would render a march by land to Mexico something more of an affair than, from the occasional talk we have heard about the southwest rising in mass and pouring itself upon Mexico, seems generally to be understood.

DISCRIMINATING TOLLS.—Cancellor Kent has given an opinion that a law imposing higher tolls on articles transported on the Oswego Canal, which have been imported from, or intended to be exported to, other States, than on similar articles transported on the same canal which have not been so imported, and are not destined for exportation, would be repugnant to the Constitution of the United States, which prohibits the States, "without the consent of Congress, from laying any imposts or duties on imports or exports except what may be absolutely necessary for executing their inspection laws;" and which gives to Congress the power "to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several States."

GLASS.—It is difficult to foresee to what perfection the manufacture of glass may be brought, and to what purposes the article may yet be applied. The balance spring of a chronometer is now made of glass, as a substitute for steel, and possesses a greater degree of elasticity and a greater power of resisting the alterations of heat and cold. A chronometer with a glass balance spring was sent to the North Sea, and exposed to a competition of nine other chronometers, and the result of the experiment was a report in favor of the chronometer with a glass spring. In a manufactory in France, they are now making glass pipes for the conveyance of water, which cost nearly 30 per cent. less than the iron pipes now used, and will bear a far greater external pressure.

AN INGENUOUS MACHINE.—Among the ingenious machines for which patents were issued during the past year is one for working Tuscany brand, the operations of which are thus described in Commissioner Ellsworth's annual report: "After the pieces of straw have been deposited in a box, the whole operation of taking each separate piece, introducing it into the press, trimming off the surplus, and transferring or transferring the pieces or nibbers by the pieces are held, and the completed brand delivered, is carried on with the most beautiful regularity without the hand of an attendant." This invention is certainly most extraordinary, for it makes man perform the volitions of an ingenious and versatile mind.